

2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

City of Bartow

The City of Bartow is very pleased to provide you with this Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023. The City wants to keep you informed about the good quality water it has delivered to its customers over the past year. Our goal is to provide you with a safe, dependable supply of drinking water. The City's water treatment plant draws water from four wells that take water from the Floridan Aquifer.

A Source Water Assessment was completed in 2022 by the Department of Environmental Protection Agency and is made available on the following website: www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp. The four wells at the main water plant were determined not susceptible to outside contamination. The other remaining well was determined susceptible to contamination from a nearby diesel storage tank with a moderate risk concern level. This well normally functions on a standby basis to guarantee additional fire protection capacity in the southeast corner of Bartow.

At the main water plant "raw" well water is drawn from the Floridan Aquifer, and then treated first with the lime softening process to remove excess hardness and other contaminants. The water is then filtered to remove turbidity, disinfected with chlorine, treated with corrosion inhibitor to prevent iron bacteria growth, and fluoride is added to promote dental health before it enters the distribution system. The City also has one other well that is used to supply a standby water plant where the water is chlorinated for disinfection before being distributed.

If you have questions about the City's drinking water facilities, or this report (or want to obtain a copy), please contact Tony Martinez weekdays, between 7:30 AM and 3:30 PM at (863) 534-0159. This report is also available on the following website: www.cityofbartow.net we want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

The City of Bartow routinely monitors for contaminants in its drinking water according to Federal and State laws, rules, and regulations. The **Test Results Table** (over) shows the results of this monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023. Data obtained before January 1, 2023 and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- (A) *Microbial Contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from wastewater treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- (B) *Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- (C) *Pesticides and herbicides*, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- (D) *Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can, also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- (E) *Radioactive contaminants*, which can be naturally occurring or be result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that your tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may reasonably expect to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to certain contaminants than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from the health care providers. EPA / CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk from infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Bartow is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

In this table you will find many abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) – means not detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

N/A - Does not apply.

Parts per million (ppm) – or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – one part by weight of analyte to one million parts by weight of the water sample.

Parts per billion (ppb) – or Micrograms per liter – one part by weight of analyte to one billion parts by weight of the water sample.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Action Level (AL) – the concentration if a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – The "Maximum Allowed", is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. The MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) – The "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant level (MRDL) - The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)- The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

2023 Test Results Table

**Result in the Level Detected column for inorganic contaminants is the highest detected at any sampling point.

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling (mo. /yr.)	MCL Violation Yes/No	Level Detected **	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium (ppm)	1/23 to 12/23	No	0.008	0.006 to 0.008	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Cadmium (ppm)	1/23 to 12/23	No	0.002	0.002	5	5	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Chromium (ppb)	1/23 to 12/23	No	5	5	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	1/23 to 12/23	No	0.57	0.45 to 0.57	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at optimum levels between 0.7 and 1.3 ppm
Lead (point of entry) (ppb)	1/23 to 12/23	No	0.5	0.5	0	15	Residue from man-made pollution such as auto emissions and paint; lead pipe, casing, and solder
Nickel (ppb)	1/23 to 12/23	No	8	8	N/A	100	Pollution from mining and refining operations. Natural occurrence in soil
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	1/23 to 12/23	No	0.092	0.092	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	1/23 to 12/23	No	1.2	1.2	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Sodium (ppm)	1/23 to 12/23	No	18.0	7.20 to 18.0	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

Synthetic Organic Contaminants

Dalapon (ppb)	1/23 to 12/23	No	0.90	0.90	200	200	Runoff from herbicide used on right of way
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Volatile Organic Contaminants

Toluene (ppm)	1/23 to 12/23	No	0.0003	0.0003	1	1	Discharge from petroleum factories
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Stage 2 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP) Parameters

Chlorine: Level Detected is the 2023 monthly average for residual Chlorine; Range of Results is the range of 2023 monthly average Chlorine residual level results (lowest to highest) at the individual sampling sites. **TTHMs** and **HAA5s:** If during the system had quarterly results only, calculate LRAAs for each site as of the end of each quarter in 2023 where there are sufficient TTHM/HAA5 results to calculate a LRAA. Report the highest 2023 LRAA as the level detected and report the range of the individual sample results during 2023 as the range of results.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	1/23 to 12/23	No	0.67	0.62 to 0.76	4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (five) HAA5 (ppb)	1/23 to 12/23	No	29.13	15.7 to 31.4	N/A	MCL = 60	By-Product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	1/23 to 12/23	No	65.05	44.9 to 78.7	N/A	MCL = 80	By-Product of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper (Tap Water)							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling (mo./yr.)	AL Violation Yes/No	90 th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL.	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	9/23	No	0.043	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	9/23	No	1	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing system, erosion of natural deposits

The City of Bartow wishes to thank you for allowing its drinking water utility to provide your family with safe, good quality water in 2023. We at the City of Bartow work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help protect our water sources by conserving water whenever possible. This will ensure a quality water supply for the future. We at the City of Bartow would like you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, please feel free to call the telephone numbers listed.

Conservation:

The world has a very limited amount of fresh water available for consumption. Nearly 70% of the world is covered by water. However, only 2.5% of it is fresh with the rest being saline and ocean based. Just 1% of our freshwater is easily accessible, with much of it trapped in glaciers and snowfields. According to the World Resources Institute, global projections for potable water (consumable water) availability are becoming more strained every year. It is exceedingly important to educate our communities as it relates to water conservation.

Watering Restrictions are established by the Southwest Florida Water Management District. Watering days are based on your house number (even or odd). You should only water before 10:00am and after 4:00pm, and only on your designated day(s).

Wednesday and Saturday (Odd Address)

Thursday and Sunday (Even Address)

Indoor Conservation Tips

- Check for leaks. Leaks can drip away 90 gallons a day or more from old fixtures such as leaky faucets
- Insulate your water pipes. You'll get hot water faster plus avoid wasting water while it heats
- Don't let water run while shaving, washing your face, or brushing your teeth

Outdoor Conservation Tips

- Outfit your hose with a shut-off nozzle that can be adjusted down to a fine spray so that water flows only as needed. When finished, turn water off at the faucet instead of at the nozzle to avoid leaks.
- Using a hose to clean a driveway can waste hundreds of gallons of water. Use a blower or broom to clean leaves and other debris from these areas.